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International Bureau of WIPO
34 chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland

Amendment of the claims under Article 19(1) (Rule 46)

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Dear Sir:

The Applicant, who received the International Search Report relating to the above identified International Application transmitted on March 9, 2004, hereby files amendment under Article 19(1) as in the attached sheets.

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 3, 4 and 8 have been cancelled. Claims 5 and 9 have been amended. Claims 10 and 11 have been newly added. Claims 1, 2, 6, and 7 are retained unchanged.

Very truly yours,


Yasunori Ohtsuka
Patent Attorney

Attachment: Amendment under Article 19(1)

CLAIMS

1. (Unchanged) An image printing and reading apparatus comprising:

5 a printing unit to print an image on a print sheet conveyed through a print sheet path;

a reading unit to read a document conveyed through a document path, having a common part belonging to said print sheet path and said document path;

10 a reference white board for shading correction used by said reading unit upon execution of prescanning; and

a moving unit to move said reading unit and said reference white board to a document reading position when said reading unit executes document reading, on the other hand,

15 to move said reading unit and said reference white board to a retreat position in which the influence of ambient light is reduced at least upon execution of prescanning.

2. (Unchanged) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
20 said retreat position is a position within a casing of said image printing and reading apparatus and away from said document reading position.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Amended) The apparatus according to any one of claims 1
5 or 2, further comprising a detection unit to detect occurrence
of jam in the common path belonging to said print sheet path
and said document path,

wherein if said detection unit has not detected the
occurrence of jam, said reading unit executes the prescanning.

10

6. (Unchanged) A prescanning method in an image printing
and reading apparatus including: a printing unit to print an
image on a print sheet conveyed through a print sheet path;
a reading unit to read a document conveyed through a document
15 path, having a common part belonging to said print sheet path
and said document path; and a reference white board for shading
correction used by said reading unit upon execution of
prescanning, said method comprising:

a step of moving said reading unit and said reference
20 white board to a document reading position when said reading
unit executes document reading, on the other hand, to move
said reading unit and said reference white board to a retreat
position in which the influence of ambient light is reduced
at least upon execution of prescanning; and

a step of executing the prescanning when said reading unit and said reference white board are in said retreat position.

5 7. (Unchanged) The method according to claim 5, wherein the retreat position is a position within a casing of said image printing and reading apparatus and away from said document reading position.

10 8. (Cancelled)

9. (Amended) The method according to any one of claims 6 or 7, further comprising a step of detecting occurrence of jam in the common path belonging to said print sheet path and said 15 document path,

wherein if the occurrence of jam has not been detected, the prescanning is executed.

10. (New) An image printing and reading apparatus 20 comprising:

 a printing unit to print an image on a print sheet conveyed through a print sheet path;

 a reading unit to read a document conveyed through a document path, having a common part belonging to said print 25 sheet path and said document path;

- a reference white board for shading correction used by said reading unit upon execution of prescanning;
- a moving unit to move said reading unit and said reference white board to a document reading position when said 5 reading unit executes document reading, on the other hand, to move said reading unit and said reference white board in a direction deviated from a color material discharging direction at least when said printing unit executes printing; and
- 10 a detection unit to detect occurrence of jam in the common path belonging to said print sheet path and said document path,
- wherein if said detection unit has not detected the occurrence of jam, said reading unit executes the prescanning.
- 15 11. (New) A prescanning method in an image printing and reading apparatus including: a printing unit to print an image on a print sheet conveyed through a print sheet path; a reading unit to read a document conveyed through a document path, having a common part belonging to said print sheet path and said document path; a reference white board for shading correction used by said reading unit upon execution of prescanning, said method comprising:
- a step of moving said reading unit and said reference

white board to a document reading position when said reading unit executes document reading, on the other hand, moving said reading unit and said reference white board in a direction deviated from a color material discharging direction at least 5 when said printing unit executes printing;

a step of performing the prescanning when said reading unit and said reference white board are in said retreat position; and

a step of detecting occurrence of jam in the common path 10 belonging to said print sheet path and said document path, wherein if the occurrence of jam has not been detected, the prescanning is executed.